

CLAIMS

Having thus described the preferred embodiments, the invention is now claimed to be:

- 5 1. An IR repeater system comprising:
 an IR detector for detecting an IR light signal and
 generating an electrical signal in response thereto;
 a transmitter coupled to the IR detector for
 generating an output IR signal; and
10 a IR emitter electrically coupled to the transmitter
 for emitting an IR light signal, said IR emitter comprising an
 IR light source and a manually adjustable brightness control.
- 15 2. The IR repeater system of claim 1, wherein said
 IR light signal represents a coded signal modulated by a
 modulating signal and further comprising a receiver for
 receiving said coded signal.
- 20 3. The IR repeater system of claim 2 wherein said
 IR light source is an LED.
- 25 4. The IR repeater system of claim 3, wherein said
 IR detector is located remotely with respect to said IR
 emitter.
- 30 5. The IR repeater system of claim 3, wherein the
 IR emitter further comprises a variable resistor electrically
 coupled to the IR light source.
- 35 6. The IR repeater system of claim 1, wherein the
 IR emitter further comprises a variable resistor electrically
 coupled to the IR light source.

7. The IR repeater system of claim 6, wherein the IR emitter further comprises a connector for removably connecting the IR emitter to the transmitter.

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8. The IR repeater system of claim 7, wherein the connector comprises a plug.

9. The IR repeater system of claim 8, wherein the
10 connector comprises a 1/8-inch monaural plug.

10. The IR repeater system of claims 8, wherein the plug comprises a housing and the variable resistor is contained within said housing.

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11. The IR repeater system of claim 10, wherein the housing comprises an aperture and the variable resistor comprises a rotatable shaft for adjusting the resistance of the variable resistor extending at least partially through said aperture.

12. The IR repeater system of claim 6, wherein the variable resistor and the IR light source are connected in series.

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13. The IR repeater system of claim 6, wherein the IR emitter comprises a pair of wire leads.

14. The IR repeater system of claim 6, wherein the
30 IR light source comprises an LED mounted in a housing adapted to be attached directly over an IR detector of a device to be controlled.

15. The IR repeater system of claim 14, wherein the variable resistor is contained within the housing.

5 16. The IR repeater system of claim 15, wherein the housing comprises an aperture and the variable resistor comprises a rotatable shaft for adjusting the resistance of the variable resistor extending at least partially through said aperture.

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17. The IR repeater system of claim 6, wherein the IR emitter further comprises a housing and wherein the variable resistor is contained within said housing.

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18. The IR repeater system of claim 17, wherein the housing comprises an aperture and the variable resistor comprises a rotatable shaft for adjusting the resistance of the variable resistor extending at least partially through said aperture.

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19. In an IR repeater system of a type comprising an infrared receiver for receiving an incoming IR signal and an infrared transmitter for transmitting a substantial replica of the incoming IR signal, an IR emitter comprising:

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comprising an IR light source and a manually adjustable brightness control.

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20. A method for effecting control of an electronic device having an IR receiver for receiving an IR control signal from a location remote from said electronic device using a remote control device, comprising:

operating the remote control device to generate a first IR control signal;

receiving the first IR control signal at an IR detector located remotely from said electronic device;

5 producing a second IR control signal in response to the first IR control signal the second IR control signal substantially replicating the first IR control signal;

10 driving an IR emitter having a manually adjustable brightness control electrically coupled to the receiver and optically coupled to the IR receiver of the electronic device with the second IR control signal to control said electronic device;

15 determining whether IR emitter has an appropriate brightness level for the IR receiver of said electronic device; and

if the IR emitter does not have an appropriate brightness level for the IR receiver of said electronic device, manually adjusting a brightness level of the IR emitter.